

Press Release

HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Department of Community Services



PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe
Harford"

EDUCATION

"Preparing Now,
Building for the Future"

EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining
Harford's Prosperity"

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our
Environment"

QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is
Important to Harford
County Citizens"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 19, 2014

Media Contact: Sherrie Johnson (410) 638-3258 (office) 443-752-3210 (cell)

Community Services Announces Edgewood as a "Sustainable Community"

(Bel Air, MD) - - The Harford County Department of Community Services is pleased to announce that Edgewood, Maryland has officially been designated as a "Sustainable Community" by the State of Maryland.

The Smart Growth Subcabinet recently approved the designation, covering 4,278 acres in the Edgewood community. It makes Edgewood one of the largest designated Sustainable Communities in the state. Some of the major revitalization plans in the application submitted to the State by the Department of Community Services' Division of Community Development included: plans for the completion of the Route 755 streetscape plan, support for commercial growth on Route 755, improved lighting, roads and housing stock in stressed neighborhoods, and commercial and residential façade improvements.

This umbrella designation, created by the Sustainable Communities Act of 2010, consolidates the targeting of State revitalization resources into focus areas where it is needed most. "The designation for Edgewood will allow the county, community nonprofits, and/or business owners to apply for funding under certain State Programs that it would not have access to otherwise," says Elizabeth S. Hendrix, Director of the Harford County Department of Community Services.

The programs include: Community Legacy, Sidewalk Retrofit, Maryland Bikeways, Community Safety and Enhancement, Neighborhood BusinessWorks, and other tax credit and incentive programs.

"The County's goal is to increase the sense of community in Edgewood through revitalization and reinvestment. We are excited that the State will be partnering with us in this endeavor," Hendrix added.

Community Development is a division within the Department of Community Services. The Harford County Department of Community Services was established in 1979 via Executive Order and works daily to meet the needs of seniors, youth, disabled and those struggling to overcome addiction. The Department works with federal, state, local and private agencies to ensure our county continues to evolve and remains dedicated to providing the best possible services for our citizens and community.

#

"Preserving Harford's past. Promoting Harford's future."